

Response to Office Action dated June 14, 2005.
Application No. 10/602,622
Attorney Docket No. FSF-031381

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 13-20 are currently pending in the present patent application.

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Okada et al, Ikari, Siga et al, and Toya et al. Initially, it is noted that the body of the rejection refers to Ito although the first sentence of the rejection does not include Ito. The combination of the specific organic polyhalogen compound, the photosensitive silver halide having a silver iodide content ranging from 10 to 100 mol % and the mercapto hetero-ring compound are not taught or suggested by the references. Moreover, as shown in the newly submitted 1.132 declaration, the inclusion of the claimed polyhalogen compounds results in unexpected superiority regarding sensitivity, printout performance and fogging. In light of the declaration, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-9 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 10-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito. Claim 10 specifies that the silver halide includes specific metal pairs (as previously recited in Claim 11). Ito fails to teach or suggest the use of these specific metal pairs. Ito further fails to teach or suggest a metal pair wherein "the first metal of the pair is distributed in a core and the second metal of the metal pair is distributed in a shell" (dependent claim 13).

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In view of the foregoing remarks and accompanying declaration, it is submitted
that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is
respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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